

GOVERNMENT MAY LEASE COAL LANDS

BIRD MAN HAS NARROW ESCAPE FROM DUCKING

By Associated Press
SAN DIEGO, Cal., Jan. 25.—Charles Hamilton, in an exhibition flight in a Curtiss biplane today had a narrow escape from falling into the ocean with the machine. Although he won in a race with the surf he met with an accident on the land, by striking a barbed wire fence while making an enforced landing, which damaged the machine. The aviator was uninjured. The high wind during the afternoon prevented Hamilton from going into the air but at 5 o'clock this evening, in order not to disappoint the crowds that had gathered on the last day of the meet, he tumbled up the machine and started out over the ocean. It was noticed that the water tank was leaking from the radiator when he ascended and a minute later the spectators saw him circling low over the water in a race toward the surf. Hamilton explained that the water had gotten into the magneto.

GRUESOME RELIC IS FOUND ON THE DESERT

In a desolate, rocky, windswept gully, opening into the main canyon 300 or 400 yards from the Colorado river, at what is known as the Jamestown crossing, about four miles south of the mouth of Vegas Wash, D. F. Watson last week picked up the remains of a human foot, still encased in the shriveled leather of a shoe. A careful search failed to reveal any other bones or relics of human origin. Mr. Watson carefully wrapped up the gruesome relic and brought it in to Vegas, where it occupies a place of honor in the Age office. Opinions as to the length of time the foot has remained exposed to the burning sun of summer and the rains of winter vary from two to twenty years with different individuals with different opinions who have inspected it. The sole of the shoe and the leather of the heel have crumbled away, leaving only the rows of nails projecting like the fangs of a hungry wolf. The bones of the foot are in a good state of preservation, and to offset the appearance of great age given by the shrunken leather the remains of the sock are fairly well preserved. The brass eyelet for lacing still remain in the leather. What story of grim suffering was closed by the death of him whose only history was written thus? Perhaps the lure of gold brought the wanderer into the wilderness of barren rocks to perish miserably of exposure and starvation, or by the burning heat of the midsummer sun. Perhaps a story of love, jealousy, greed and murder lies behind the weather-beaten relic. We only know that sometime in the past another of those grim tragedies of the desert has been enacted, leaving none to tell the tale.—Las Vegas Age.

NEW COON SONG
BY TONOPAH MAN
Among the musical publications of the near future will be a new coon song by a Tonopah man. Edward N. Buck, who enjoys some reputation as the local poet, has forwarded to Oliver Ditson & Co., of Boston, the well known music publishers, the words of a new Creole love-song, "Mah Honey-Bee," for which he has applied for the copyright. It is written in the negro dialect, and Mr. Buck says it is one of the best things he has ever written. It will find its first local production at the Butler.

Two more days until the 28th.

Large Alaska Property Holder Maliciously Charges That Army Officer Is A LOBBYIST

HOUSE PASSES BILL CREATING A MINING BUREAU

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The house today passed a bill creating a bureau of mines in the department of the interior. The measure is to become effective July first. The bill directs the secretary of the interior to foster, promote and develop the mining industries of the United States, and to investigate the methods of mining and possible improvements for the carrying on of mining operations.

MACAO IS INVADED BY CHINESE TROOPS

By Associated Press
PARIS, Jan. 25.—A special from Lisbon says the Chinese have invaded Macao and that a cruiser has been ordered there. The failure of the Chinese and Portuguese governments to come to an agreement over this disputed territory led to the anticipation of definite action on the part of the Chinese early in the day.

WILL ENLARGE ITS SEATING CAPACITY

Jake Goodfriend, ever mindful of the convenience and comfort of his patrons at the Butler, this morning begins the enlargement of the seating capacity of his house. The stage will be set back some feet and thus give room for something like eighty additional seats. In this way will be avoided the occasional overcrowding that has resulted from the excellence of the shows presented, which at times have drawn more people than the house could comfortably hold. Needless to say, the projected improvements will in no wise interfere with the show at the usual hours, day and evening.

Floods Cause Heavy Losses in French Towns

CHURCHES USE POOR SCHEMES TO RAISE MONEY

By Associated Press
SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 25.—"We must frankly admit that a good many of our religious church plans have little or no spiritual momentum about them at all, so they keep close to the ground," declared Bishop Nichols during the course of an address before the sixtieth convention of the California diocese of the Episcopal church. "All sorts of clap-net schemes, and purveyances are offered to the public in our religious money raising," added the bishop. "And often times the public takes tickets for church affairs under protest, with the sentiment of 'a plague on your church entertainment.'"

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Offers to Pay Royalty of Fifty Cents Per Ton on All the Coal Mined.

Offer Comes in Direct Opposition to Legislation Proposed by Private Interests.

By Associated Press
WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—A new factor appeared today to add to the intensity of the already sufficiently excited situation over the Alaska coal lands, on the eve of the beginning of the Ballinger-Pinchot investigation. John E. Ballaine, of Seattle, said to be one of the largest individual property holders in Alaska, made a proposition in writing to the senate committee on territories, of which Senator Beveridge is chairman, offering the government a royalty of 50 cents a ton on coal mined for a lease of five thousand acres of some of the choicest coal lands in Alaska in the Katatta and Matanuska districts. Such a tonnage royalty would net the government, Ballaine claims, as high as two million dollars per hundred acres. The proposal contemplates a radical departure from the past practices of the government in the disposal of Alaska coal lands, and comes avowedly to do battle with another proposition embodied in a bill prepared, but not introduced, which was designed to permit the sale or lease of such lands at the rate of \$10 per acre.

It is said the general features of the plan have the approval of the high administration officials and influential members of both houses of congress including the prominent insurgent republicans and Delegate Wickersham of Alaska. Ballaine in his letter offers to enter into a million dollar bond with the government for the performance of his part of the agreement and makes the charge that "other interests" have a lobby now at Washington which is "headed by a former senator" to support the bill referred to above under whose provisions, he declares, the government will extend an unconditional guarantee to the railroad or railroads, which these interests propose to build in Alaska, and would virtually donate them at \$10 an acre, for one or more tracts of 50,000 acres each, to be selected by themselves.

Ballaine says the veins average a total thickness of twenty feet, and will yield, according to standard measurements, more than a hundred million tons from five acres, making a royalty of fifty million dollars. He asks the government to provide as a condition on its part that no other coal lands in Alaska shall be leased on the payment of a smaller royalty, and also to agree that at least half of the government supply of coal shall be obtained from the company or from the naval coal reserve which the government may establish and operate in the Matanuska district, and that the shipping of the product to Seward will be at rates to be fixed by the interstate commerce commission over the railroads, the plans for their construction which he outlines. The proposed railroad will be approximately a thousand miles in length and will run from the Pacific coast to Seward, and the three interior valleys and more strategic points on navigable rivers.

Many Lives are Lost While Thousands are Rescued by Boats—Military Authorities Aid in the Rescue Work.

By Associated Press
PARIS, Jan. 26.—(Wednesday)—The river authorities early this morning announced that the Seine will continue to rise until Thursday and will exceed the high record of 1802. The Lyons railroad company has notified the public that all service out of Paris has been suspended. The great bonded warehouses at Bercy appear to be doomed to destruction and the military authorities have telegraphed the generals of the provinces to hurry pontoons, bedding and supplies to points where the floods are severe, while the minister of marine has ordered the authorities at ports to send life boats and crews to Paris. The floods have broken out in the south and the rivers Gers, Crarente, Adour and Dordogne are overflowing their banks. Fierce storms are raging along the coast. At Conflans fourteen houses collapsed. The Aube canal has burst, flooding Saint Just and several other villages. The victims of the flood number more than one hundred thousand and the monetary loss is incalculable. The senate today appropriated \$400,000 to national relief and the public aid for this purpose is well

ing. President Fallieres heads the list with \$4,000. Rothschilds has given \$20,000. At Alfortville the streets are filled with water twelve feet deep and only the tops of the houses are seen. Over 3,000 persons have been rescued by boats since 6 o'clock this morning. There are many cases of drowning and many aged and sick have died as a result of the shock and exposure. Among the many old and infirm, finding themselves unable to leave, one man and a woman hanged themselves to a bedpost. The hospital at Ivry, contained 2,000 patients, and is surrounded by water. President Fallieres and Premier Briand made a trip this afternoon through the flooded districts in the eastern section of Paris. They walked through some of the streets knee deep in the mud and water.

OIL LAND WITHDRAWN.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The secretary of the interior has withdrawn from entry as probably containing oil, an additional area of 147,887 acres in California. The total area of this class of withdrawals in the state now is 1,952,453 acres.

AMERICAN BANK IN MEXICO CITY IS SUSPENDED

(By Associated Press.)
MEXICO CITY, Jan. 25.—The United States Banking company was suspended from the clearing house upon the failure to make a settlement of today's business. By special arrangement the bank was given until 9:30 tomorrow to make good the deficit, which is said to amount to 400,000 pesos.

NO MEAT FOR THE COLORADO MINERS

By Associated Press
DENVER, Colo., Jan. 25.—The Colorado State Federation of Labor, with a membership of 50,000 workers, today adopted resolutions to the effect that none eat meat until the prices are within the reach of the laboring classes.

FUNERAL WAS VERY LARGELY ATTENDED

Saturday's Reno Gazette says: The funeral of the late George K. Savage, formerly of Sparks when employed on the main line of the Southern Pacific road, but latterly on the Tonopah and Goldfield, when the accident occurred which ended his life, took place this afternoon in Reno, from the undertaking parlors.

There was a large representation of the members of the Order of Railway Conductors, to which organization Savage was attached for several years and which had the funeral in charge. The burial was in Mountain View cemetery.

Rev. Samuel Unsworth, rector of the Episcopal church in Reno, spoke feelingly and commendably of the deceased, as he stood by the side of the elegant casket, surrounded by beautiful emblems of respect and remembrance.

INVESTIGATION OF BEEF TRUST STARTS TODAY

By Associated Press
CHICAGO, Jan. 25.—Eight subpoenas were issued today to be served tomorrow on witnesses to appear before the federal grand jury in the government's investigation of the so-called "beef trust." It is expected by tomorrow afternoon the government will have formally begun the inquiry into the charges that the dressed meat industry of the country is controlled by practically a one price-fixing company.

GET YOUR GIRL FOR THE FIREMEN'S DANCE

If you haven't any girl of your own then swipe the other fellow's for you are certainly expected to go to the hall given by the Volunteer firemen with a side-partner that wears skirts. This is one of the occasions when the stag business doesn't go worth a cent. If you hold three jacks, you must fill the hand with two queens. The boys are making most elaborate preparations for the big event, which is scheduled for the 28th. The date is worth remembering—as it will be remembered by those who attend. And bear in mind, too, that if you fail to make this date with your girl, she'll make it herself with the other fellow—even if he isn't half as good-looking as you are.

CHARGES THAT ARMY OFFICER IS A LOBBYIST

By Associated Press
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—James Wickersham, the Alaska delegate to congress, has demanded upon Secretary of War Dickinson that he order out of Washington and back to Alaska or to military duty, Major W. P. Richardson, chairman of the Alaska road commission. Wickersham charges that Richardson is exerting too much influence upon the congressional committees. When the Alaskan legislative council bill was before the senate committee on territories, Delegate Wickersham charged, the major was in Washington claiming to be the adviser of the administration on all matters relating to Alaska, and he was in fact lobbying on behalf of special interests, mentioning among others the Guggenheim interests. Wickersham also charged Richardson with endeavoring to perpetuate himself as chairman of the roads commission and at the same time legislate him into the office of commissioner of the interior, an office created by the Alaska legislative council at a salary of \$7,500 a year.

BIG SHIPMENT OF GOLD ORE FROM BUCKHORN

PALISADE, Nev., Jan. 25.—The new camp of Buckhorn is certainly proving to be one of the banner camps of the state and is making good in every way. This can be backed up by the showing recently made by the camp. The leading mine of Buckhorn next week will make a shipment of a car of ore valued at \$104,500. This is the first shipment to be made by the camp but it will be followed by many more of equal and perhaps greater value.

A GOOD CROWD SAW BUTLER SHOW

A large crowd enjoyed a swell program at the Butler last night. It is very seldom one witnesses so good a program as was shown at this popular place of amusement. Today there will be another entire change of program, when four pictures and two illustrated songs will be on the boards.

The following pictures will be shown: "Daughter of Poverty," drama; "Terrible Ordeal," a big American Biograph picture; "Corsican's Hospitality," drama; and a howling comedy, "A Live Corpse." A synopsis of this comedy is that poor Billie has been celebrating and when he comes home falls into a swoon from which it is impossible to arouse him. His physician therefore pronounces him dead. After spending some hours weeping beside the dead body of her husband, Genevieve finally pulls herself together and sends a note to a former admirer, and while he is talking to her Billie wakes up. Well, what happens—one should come and see for themselves. This program is on at today's matinee and tonight's performance, with an entire change tomorrow. Matinee at 2 o'clock.

TRAINMEN IN SOUTH ASK ADVANCE IN PAY

CLEVELAND, Jan. 25.—Officials of 25 railway systems in the south today received requests from the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and the Order of Railway Conductors for a wage increase and better working conditions.

being—as it will be remembered by those who attend. And bear in mind, too, that if you fail to make this date with your girl, she'll make it herself with the other fellow—even if he isn't half as good-looking as you are.